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*Control of rinderpest.*

* 1380 *Q.*—SRI M. JAGANNATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of non-official members of the Livestock Improvement Board if any; and

(*b*) the steps taken to implement the scheme for the eradication of rinderpest in the State recommended by the Board at its meeting held at Palayakottai on 22nd May 1952?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) There are four non-official members on the Board.

" (*b*) In order to prevent the spread of rinderpest disease into this State from the adjoining States, the Government have sanctioned a scheme under which 20 quarantine stations have been established on the borders of this State in the districts of South Kanara, Coimbatore, Salem, North Arcot and Chingleput for the inoculation of animals brought into this State."

*Crossword puzzles.*

* 1381 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the steps, the Government propose to take against crossword puzzles in this State?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" This Government have urged upon the Government of India, the urgent need for legislation in the matter on an All-India basis and this is under the consideration of that Government."

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY :—" நமது சர்க்கார் இந்த குறுக்கெழுத்துப் போட்டியை கண்ட்ரோல் பண்ணுவதற்கு உத்தேசம் செய்திருக்கிறார்களா ? அல்லது இதை முழுவதுமே ஒழித்துவிடுவதற்கு யோசனை செய்கிறார்களா ? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" இந்த சர்க்கார் முதலில் மத்திய சர்க்காருக்கு குறுக்கெழுத்துப் போட்டி பூராவையும் ஒழித்து விடுவது நல்லதென்று சிபார்சு செய்தார்கள். ஆனால் மத்திய சர்க்காரிலிருந்து கிடைத்த கடிதங்கள் யாவையும் வைத்துக்கொண்டு, பூராவையும் தடை செய்வது கஷ்டமாக இருக்கலாம், இன்னும் அதிக நாள் ஆகலாம் என்று கருதி, பரிசுத் தொகையைக் கட்டுப்படுத்தி அதை நல்ல முறையில் நடக்கும்படி செய்வதற்கு மத்திய சர்க்கார் நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொண்டாலும் இந்தச் சர்க்கார் ஒப்புக் கொள்ளும் என்கின்ற அபிப்பிராயத்தைத் தெரிவித்திருக்கிறோம்."

8-40 a.m. SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" How are crossword puzzles a menace to the Society or State when such crossword puzzles make lazy men active, unthinking men to think and incidentally bring a little money to the lucky people? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" That may be the opinion of the hon. Member. But many other people think that it is a menace."

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Sri S. PANCHAKSHARAM :—" Will the Government consider the idea of running State lotteries and satisfy to a certain extent the gambling spirit that is pervading? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I do not want the State to come into the picture to satisfy all those instincts in human life."

Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Are the Government aware in our country where illiteracy and superstition prevail in a large percentage the people who are illiterate and who believe in these crossword puzzles are doomed by these crossword puzzles? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Yes, the hon. Member is expressing the information in another way. That is all."

Sri S. DAIVASIGAMONEY :—" Arising out of the answer given by the Hon. Minister may I know whether it is the policy of the Government to control the morals of the people? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" It is not question of controlling the morals of the people. The instinct of gambling should not be exploited by a few. That is the idea."

Sri N. C. RAMASAMY KANDER :—" குறுக்கெழுத்துப் போட்டியிலிருந்து கிடைக்கும் லாபத்தில் பாதித் தொகையை சர்க்கார் பெறுவதற்கு வழி செய்தால் நில வரியின்பேரில் ரூபாய்க்கு இரண்டணு வரி போடவேண்டிய அவசியம் இருக்காதல்லவா ? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" குறுக்கெழுத்து போட்டியின்மூலம் கிடைக்கும் லாபத்தில் பாதித் தொகையை சர்க்கார் வசூலிக்கவேண்டுமென்று சொன்னால் அது வருமான வரியாக இருக்கும். வருமான வரி விதிப்பதற்கு இந்த சர்க்காருக்கு அதிகாரம் இல்லை. கனம் அங்கத்தினர் சொன்ன யோசனையைக் கேட்டால் நஷ்டத்திலும் சர்க்கார் பங்கு கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று அவர்கள் கேட்பார்கள்."

Sri S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM :—" From the various answers given by the Hon. Minister the impression has been created that whereas previously the Madras Government wanted that these crossword puzzles should be stopped altogether, it is now evident that the Central Government might find out a via-media policy of not stopping the crossword puzzles altogether but only of fixing the maximum prize amount that could be offered. If that is so will this Government take up its previous stand and tell the Central Government that crossword puzzles should be stopped as such in the interest of the public? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" If the hon. Member wants the present state of affairs not to continue, we may perhaps still persist for the total banning of these crossword puzzles. But I am sure hon. Members would have looked into the news item in to-day's papers wherein it has been

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stated that for the purpose of controlling and restricting the activities of these cross words puzzles, Bill will soon be introduced in Parliament.''

(Starred questions Nos. 1382 and 1383 answered together.)

*Extension of electric train service beyond Tambaram.*

* 1382 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state what suggestions the State Government have made to the Central Government for extending the electric train service beyond Tambaram?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—'' The State Government have impressed upon the Government of India the need for the electrification of the railway system beyond Tambaram and have strongly recommended the electrification of the Tambaram-Villupuram Section at least, if the electrification of the Tambaram-Tiruchirappalli Section is considered to be too big an undertaking to be taken all at once.''

* 1383 *Q.*—SRI A. RATNAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any scheme for the extension of the electrification of suburban railways from Tambaram up to Chingleput has been recommended by the Government;

(*b*) if so, the estimated cost thereof;

(*c*) whether the Government have submitted any proposals for new railway links in the State; and

(*d*) if so, the details thereof?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—'' (*a*) Yes. Sir. This Government recommended to the Government of India the extension of electrification of the suburban railways beyond Tambaram at least up to Vllupuram in the first instance, in case it was considered to be too great an undertaking to take up all at once the electrification of the entire Tambaram-Tiruchirappalli Section.

'' (*b*) The particulars relating to the estimated cost are not available with the State Government.

'' (*c*) & (*d*) Yes, Sir. In connection with the Second Five-Year Plan of the Government of India, the following railways projects were recommended to the Government of India besides the proposal for electrification of lines :—

(1) Theni-Gudalur Section.

(2) Neyveli-Vriddhachalam-Salem (Broad Gauge) Line.

(3) Salem-Bangalore Line.

(4) Chinnasalem-Chingleput Line.

(5) Mangalore-Hassan Line.